

# Focus on Fifth

Weekly News for Holmes Fifth-Grade Families

News and Events in the 5th Grade

March 14, 2016

[www.op97.org](http://www.op97.org)

## **Important Dates:**

March 18 - Completed Science Fair experiments and collected data

March 19 - Young Scientists Conference

March 22 - Elementary Instrumental Music Festival

April 5 - Brooks tour

April 7 - Science Fair

## **News**

### **Brooks Tour**

On Tuesday, April 5, we will walk to Brooks Middle School for a tour of the school, followed by a question and answer session. There is no fee for this trip, but we will need a signed permission slip for each student. Permission slips will be sent home later this week. There will also be a parent orientation on April 6.

**The Elementary Instrumental Music Festival** will be held at OPRF High School on Tuesday, March 22, 2016 from 6:30-8:30 p.m. This event features EVERY 4th & 5th grade student who is in band or orchestra, over 700 students!

Students will be bused to the high school on Monday, March 21 or Tuesday, March 22 for an hour long rehearsal. Please click the link below and fill out the permission slip to give your student permission to attend. The specific dates and times are included in the e-mail.

**[Permission for Festival Rehearsals - CLICK HERE](#)**

***PLEASE MAKE SURE TO CLICK SUBMIT ON THE FINAL SCREEN!!!***

We are looking for parents to ride the buses and assist with rehearsal supervision, and there is a space to mark that on the permission link.

If you have further questions, please contact your student's band or orchestra teacher directly.

Thank you!

Gabby Rosenblum - Beye BAND

Vince Greco - Holmes, Irving, Mann BAND

Sandra Korelc - Beye, Holmes, Longfellow, Whittier ORCHESTRA

Brian Shannon - Hatch, Whittier BAND

Ericka Shannon - Hatch, Irving, Lincoln, Mann ORCHESTRA

Amy Vogt - Lincoln, Longfellow BAND

## **D97 Young Scientists Conference!**

Oak Park District 97 presents...The **2016 Young Scientists Conference!** It will return after a 3-year hiatus on Saturday, March 19, 9 AM - 10:30AM & 11AM -12:30PM at Horace Mann School. The Young Scientists Conference provides D97 students in grades K-8 an opportunity to interact with scientists in hands-on workshops. Workshops are led by professionals in all fields of science. Many scientists also volunteer throughout the year in educational partnerships with D97 schools through Oak Park Education Foundation's Science Alliance Program. Students are assigned to one 90-minute workshop based on grade level. Students must register and are selected from homerooms by lottery to help assure that all schools and grades are represented. Participants will be notified by late February. Please register at <http://www.op97.org/ysc2016/>. Registration ends February 10. If you have any questions, please email [youngscientists@op97.org](mailto:youngscientists@op97.org).

## **Typing Practice**

Students can log on to Typing Training from home to practice keyboarding skills. The Typing Training program is accessible from the District's website, and students should begin practicing keyboarding skills at home. The link is: <http://www.op97.org/technology/Custom-Typing.cfm>

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## **Specials- [www.holmesspecials.blogspot.com](http://www.holmesspecials.blogspot.com)**

### **Art**

Please ensure that your artist statement is in the Google Doc folder for your art class. Thanks!  
~Ms. Jones ([kjones@op97.org](mailto:kjones@op97.org))

### **Music**

We have been working on "Street Song" a xylophone piece by Carl Orff. In the last few weeks we learned the beginning of the piece, the theme, the simplest arrangement of the melody. Now we are starting to work on different variations on the theme that get increasingly complex. We will also be working on ukes in the next few weeks. If students still have not turned in their 3rd trimester assignments they can still get partial credit.

### **Chorus**

We are now practicing for our District Festival. The permission slips were sent through email this week. If you do not receive one email me at [akaria@op97.org](mailto:akaria@op97.org). We will also be performing at the Chicago Wolves game on Saturday April 16th--save the date!

### **Spanish**

### **Library, Reading Olympics**

Congratulations to Tej Menon, Ezra Plotkin, and Roman Patzopoulos on their win at the district level! This is the **third** time in a row a Holmes team has won at the district level. Let's see if we can keep up our winning streak at this year's **Extreme Round**, Thursday, April 21. The Holmes competition will be the previous week. Any team wishing to participate should have their forms in to me this Wednesday. <http://www.op97.org/holmes/mediacenter/Reading-Olympics.cfm>

### **Library**

We will be starting a research project this week. Students will be researching a country of their choice, writing a narrative from the point of view of a student in that country, and making a movie that highlights a "day in the life..." in that country. We will be using the CultureGrams database through the OPPL [Homework Help](#) page. While the majority of the project will be done in the library, students may wish to access the databases at home. To do so, students will need an OPPL card and PIN. Don't forget to email me with any questions! [mmaneck@op97.org](mailto:mmaneck@op97.org)

### **Physical Education**

### **Reading/Literature**

This week, students will be taking a quiz on Monday covering our RI.8 standard, which entails identifying reasons and evidence that support a claim in informational texts. Then, beginning on Wednesday, we will be reading a short story called "Your Question for Author Here" by Kate Dicamillo and Jon Scieszka. This story will help us begin our literature focus for the beginning of the third trimester. Students will be identifying words that describe a character and providing evidence for their choice.

Please make sure there is a parent or guardian checking, and initialing, students' reading logs each night!

### **Writing**

Our writing time will be spent working on an expository writing piece about a great thinker. Students will be using research methods used for other essays to apply to this one.

### **Math**

In math this week, students will be applying their understanding of fraction multiplication to divide unit fractions by whole numbers and to divide whole numbers by unit fractions. There will be a short quiz on Friday on fraction division.

### **Science**

In science this week, we will be continuing to learn about chemical and physical change. The students will be conducting an experiment with phenol red solution, calcium chloride, and baking soda to see what kind of reaction releases heat. **The students should be completed with their Science Fair experiments at home and have their collected data by this Friday, March 18th.**

### **Social Studies**

This week students will be working in partners to research a specific colony. They will be looking for information on how it formed, natural resources, job opportunities, religious freedom, and education. Students will use this information to make a "Colonial Handbill". This is an advertisement meant to entice Europeans to move to the colony.

### **Word Study**

This week, we will work within Unit 3 Lesson 16 of our vocabulary curriculum, which focuses on the Latin base *rupt* meaning "break". Students will have word work for this lesson due on Friday.

Visit the **Holmes Digital Backpack** - <http://www.op97.org/holmes/digitalbackpack/>

**We're on the Web!**

Visit us at: <http://holmes5thgrade.wikispaces.com/>

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